

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 00568 121349Z

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8753

S E C R E T KUWAIT 0568

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJ: AMIR'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE RE ENERGY CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 04156

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON FROM
OF KUWAIT IN RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT'S JAN 9 MESSAGE (REFTEL)

RE FEB 11 MEETING OF MAJOR OIL CONSUMING COUNTRIES IN WASHINGTON.
THE LETTER IS DATED 5 FEB, DELIVERED TO EMBASSY FEB 10 AND
RELEASED BY FONMIN (SEE SEPTTEL) FEB 12. ORIGINAL HAS BEEN
POUCHED TO KUWAIT EMBASSY, WASHINGTON.

2. QTE: MR. PRESIDENT: WHILE WE APPRECIATE YOUR MESSAGE OF
JANUARY 9, 1974, NOTHING WOULD PLEASE KUWAIT MORE THAN TO TAKE
PART IN AND CONTRIBUTE TO ANY CONSTRUCTIVE AND POSITIVE EFFORT
EXERTED TOWARDS ESTABLISHING NEW MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ARRANGEMENTS
FOR INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AND RELATED ECONOMIC MATTERS. WE
AGREE WITH YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE NEED FOR SUCH EFFORTS
IS MOST URGENT. RECOGNIZING THIS, OUR MINISTER OF FINANCE
AND OIL, HAS ALREADY AS FAR BACK AS LAST JUNE, SUPPORTED THE
HOLDING OF SUCH A MEETING ATTENDED BY ALL NATIONS, PARTICULARLY
BOTH THE MAJOR OIL CONSUMING AND OIL PRODUCING ONES, TO DISCUSS
THE SUBJECT AND SEEK APPROPRIATE SOLUTION.

IN OUR OPINION, HOWEVER, TO BE TRULY CONSTRUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL
THESE EFFORTS SHOULD BE REALLY INTERNATIONAL IN CHARACTER FROM

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 00568 121349Z

THE VERY START. IT IS ESSENTIAL NOT TO CONDUCT THESE EFFORTS

IN A MANNER LEADING TO THE POLARITY OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD INTO TWO OPPOSITE BLOCS, OIL CONSUMING NATIONS OPPOSING OIL PRODUCING NATIONS. FOR SUCH A POLARIZATION CAN LEAD ONLY TO A CONFRONTATION INSTEAD OF LEADING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION NECESSARY FOR WORLD PEACE AND PROSPERITY. IN THE LIGHT OF THIS, WE INTEND TO TAKE PART IN ANY INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE GENERAL PROBLEM, WORLD ENERGY, AS A WHOLE. THIS WAS CLEARLY SHOWN IN THE PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE MINISTERS CONFERENCE OF THE OPEC STATES IN GENEVA ON JANUARY 19, 1974.

AS REGARDS THE PARTICULAR PROBLEM OIL, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT FUTURE OIL SUPPLY AND PRICES COULD OR SHOULD BE DISCUSSED ISOLATED FROM SUPPLIES AND PRICES OF COMMODITIES AND MAJOR INDUSTRIAL GOODS TRADED INTERNATIONALLY, OR FROM THE FLOW OF TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW, SKILLS AND THEIR COSTS, OR FROM SYSTEMS OF WORLD MONETARY AND CAPITAL MOVEMENTS IN THE FUTURE. A NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL POLICY THAT ATTEMPTS TO IGNORE ANY OR ALL OF THESE FACTORS WILL ACTUALLY BE MEANINGLESS AND DOOMED TO FAILURE.

BUT AS TO THE PLACE WHERE THESE WIDE-RANGING AND FAR-REACHING ISSUES SHOULD BE DISCUSSED, WE THINK THAT THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS SPECIALIZED ORGANS ARE THE MOST APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR SUCH. SUSPICIONS WOULD THERE BE ALLAYED, CONFIDENCE AND HOPE WOULD BE INCREASED THAT TRULY FAIR AND EQUITABLE ARRANGEMENTS MAY BE MADE TO STAND FOR THE FUTURE.

INDEED, MR. PRESIDENT, NOTHING COULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE THE PROSPECTS FOR THE DESIRED FRIENDLY COOPERATION BETWEEN US, MORE THAN THOSE UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS, PROVOCATIONS AND POINTLESS THREATS WHICH HIGH OFFICIALS OF YOUR ADMINISTRATION HAVE RECENTLY PERSISTED IN DIRECTING AGAINST THE ARAB NATION. IT IS REGRETTED THAT SUCH A THING HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO HAPPEN.

WE BELIEVE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WITH ITS HUGE POSSIBILITIES IN DIFFERENT FIELDS, IS CAPABLE OF DOING A GREAT DEAL FOR THE REALIZATION OF A WORLD IN WHICH UNDERSTANDING AND PROSPERITY PREVAIL.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 00568 121349Z

PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. PRESIDENT, MY BEST REGARDS AND HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. (SGD.) SABAH AL-SALEM AL-SABAH, AMIR OF KUWAIT.
UNQTE.
STOLTZFAU

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